



CALL TO ARTISTS FOR PUBLIC ART COMMISSIONS AT DOWNTOWN TRANSIT CENTER

**BLOOMINGTON, INDIANA
MARCH 2013**

APPLICATIONS DUE: APRIL 29, 2013



Call to Artists for Public Art Commissions at Downtown Transit Center

1. Project Information

A. Project Overview

The City of Bloomington Arts Commission is issuing this Call to Artists to submit applications for consideration for four Artwork commission projects at the Downtown Transit Center in Bloomington, Indiana.

The four projects are: **1) Benches; 2) Bicycle Racks; 3) Bloomington Transit Logo Artwork; 4) Transit Mural.**

The Downtown Transit Center Art Selection Panel, composed of artists, arts professionals, project partners and community members, will review responses to this Call to Artists and recommend an artist (or artist team) for each commission opportunity. Artists may apply for one or more commissions, and an artist (or artist team) may be awarded more than one commission. The Bloomington Public Transportation Corporation is committed to investing approximately \$104,000 toward public art at the Downtown Transit Center. Funding for these commissions will be provided by the Bloomington Public Transportation Corporation ("Bloomington Transit") and administered by the City of Bloomington's Arts Commission ("Arts Commission").

B. Background

The new 10,000 square foot Downtown Transit Center at the southeast corner of S. Walnut Street and E. 3rd Street will include waiting, ticketing and service areas for Bloomington Transit on the first floor and serve as the Central Emergency Dispatch Center on the second floor. This facility replaces the existing Downtown Transfer Center at the northwest corner of S. Washington Street and E. 4th Street, one block to the north. This center has been in place since 1987 and no longer serves the needs of a rapidly growing Bloomington Transit. The new Dispatch Center will replace the existing 500 square foot facility currently located within the Bloomington Police Department Headquarters, one block to the east.

The new Downtown Transit Center is a modern/contemporary design utilizing a curved main corner element with recessed entrance and secondary entrances along the transit plaza to the south. The building is clad in limestone, with areas of spandrel glass. The transportation terminal itself will allow for more and longer buses and is anticipated to be able to serve the needs of Bloomington Transit for at least the next 20 years. The terminal includes three lanes for bus loading and unloading that will be accessed from both Walnut St. and Washington St. It also includes long-term bike lockers and covered passenger waiting areas. The building has been designed to meet a LEED Silver rating.

The completion of the Downtown Transit Center is scheduled for February 2014. Installation of commissions will be between October 2013 and January 31, 2014.

Bloomington Transit and the Arts Commission recognize that the visual quality of public space such as the Downtown Transit Center has a profound impact on transit patrons and the community at large. Mass transit systems should be positive symbols in the community, attracting local riders, visitors and the attention of local, regional and national decision makers. Good design and art can improve the appearance and safety of a facility, give vibrancy to its public spaces and make patrons

feel welcome. Good design and art will also contribute to the goal that transit facilities help to create livable communities.

Bloomington Transit is committed to contributing funding toward public art in this transit project in order to create a facility that is an integral component of the community. At the Downtown Transit Center, public art will interweave and share space with striking architecture, serving to enhance the enjoyment of those passing through this public space, while complementing the power of the existing design elements.

C. Project Limits

A general diagram, the Downtown Transit Center Site Plan, is included as **Appendix A** to this Call to Artists. The locations for the public art commissions are indicated on the site plan.

D. Project Information Contact

All questions related to the Call to Artists requirements and requests for clarification must be submitted in writing to:

Miah Michaelson

Department of Economic and Sustainable Development

401 N. Morton Street Suite 130

Bloomington, IN 47402

Questions may be emailed to michaelm@bloomington.in.gov

All questions submitted and responses will be posted on project webpage at www.bloomington.in.gov/arts no later than April 15.

II. Scope of Services

A. General

Each applicant selected as a result of this Call to Artists will enter into an agreement with the City of Bloomington to develop and submit final designs and detailed fabrication and installation plans consistent with the application and then complete the execution and installation of the approved Artwork commission.

B. Project Services

1. This Call to Artists describes four areas of opportunity for public art installations. The four commissions include design, fabrication and installation of Artworks. Related services include, but are not limited to: conceptualization and design, including development of construction documents; specification of required equipment, materials and fabrication methods; identification of installation requirements; development of a budget identifying all associated costs; fabrication and installation.
2. A general diagram, the Downtown Transit Center Site Plan, is included as **Appendix A** to this Call to Artists. The locations for the public art commissions are indicated on the site plan.

Commission #1: Benches

Total commission budget: **\$34,000**

22 Benches will be located around the exterior of the transit site to allow patrons to comfortably wait for transit service.

Specifications and Considerations

- Each bench shall be 72" in length.
- Bench seat height, depth, width and securement shall comply with prevalent accessibility requirements.
- Benches shall have backs and arms with intermediate arm, or similar to discourage persons from lying down on the bench.
- May incorporate a transit or transportation theme.
- Shall be of one or more of the following materials: steel, aluminum, or stone (see below for product requirements.)
- Shall demonstrate a high level of aesthetic quality.
- Shall be compatible with Downtown Transit Center design.
- Shall be fabricated and warranted to commercial industry standards (see below for product requirements.)
- Benches are to be installed in paver areas; therefore securing benches to secondary concrete footings is required. The concrete footing, pavers and paver-bed systems will be installed by the Transit Center contractor. It is the responsibility of the artist to configure bench base and secure and install benches to comply with conditions as-built by the Transit Center contractor.

For product requirements please see project webpage at www.bloomington.in.gov/arts.

Commission #2: Bicycle Racks

Total commission budget: **\$20,000**

22 Bicycle racks will allow riders convenient locations to park their bikes while using transit service.

Specifications and Considerations

- Each rack shall be capable of securing two bicycles.
- May incorporate a transit or transportation theme.
- May be of the following materials: steel, aluminum, or stone (see below for product requirements.)
- Shall demonstrate a high level of aesthetic quality.
- Shall be compatible with Downtown Transit Center design.
- Shall be fabricated and warranted to commercial industry standards (see below for product requirements.)
- Bike racks are to be installed in paver areas, therefore securing rack bases to secondary concrete footings is required. The concrete footing, pavers and paver-bed systems will be installed by the Transit Center contractor. It is the responsibility of the artist to configure bike rack base and secure and install racks to comply with conditions as-built by the Transit Center contractor.

For product and installation requirements please see project webpage at www.bloomington.in.gov/arts.

Appendix B to this Call to Artists contains plaza level views of the Downtown Transit Center.

Commission #3: Bloomington Transit Logo Artwork

Total commission budget: **\$25,000**

Artwork incorporating the Bloomington Transit logo as a primary design element will be installed on the exterior of the Downtown Transit Center. The Artwork developed will be visible to the public traveling north on Walnut Street and should provide a compelling initial impact and project a positive impression of Bloomington Transit and the Transit Center. The wall that will accommodate the Artwork is on the southernmost face of the Transit Center immediately adjacent to the stairway tower. The surface of the wall is a buff colored limestone and should require a minimal level of preparation by the artist. The area for the Artwork is approximately 16 square feet and 30' above grade. The site for the Artwork will be exposed to the sun and elements, and therefore the materials and workmanship should be appropriately considered. The artist may consider either two or three-dimensional Artwork for this commission, but it shall contain as a primary element the Bloomington Transit logo. The logo may be represented in color (Pantone 341 only); in negative space or through some other choice by the artist. It may also include other elements, materials, etc. that befit a transit location. The artist may also consider interior or exterior lighting of the Artwork (within LEED Silver standards), although it is not required as a part of this commission.

Specifications and Considerations

- May incorporate a transit or transportation theme.
- May be of any material appropriate for exterior installation.
- Shall incorporate an exact rendering of the Bloomington Transit logo.
- Shall demonstrate a high level of aesthetic quality.
- Shall be compatible with Downtown Transit Center design and materials.
- Shall be fabricated and warranted to commercial industry standards.
- Shall not exceed a 16 square foot area.
- Shall accommodate a specific installation configuration (to be specified in artist contract).
Artist is responsible for installation.

Appendix C to this Call to Artists contains a site view for the Bloomington Transit Logo Artwork.

Appendix D to this Call to Artists contains a print copy of the Bloomington Transit logo. An electronic copy can be downloaded at the project webpage www.bloomington.in.gov/arts.

Commission #4 Transit Mural

Total commission budget: **\$25,000**

A street-level mural will be installed on the westernmost side of the Downtown Transit Center facility. The mural developed will be visible to the public traveling from the south, north and west and should serve to engage the public in the life of the facility. The mural should be visually dynamic, communicate themes and values inherent to transit and transportation in either abstract or representational form and function as a sustainable work that will remain relevant well into the future. The wall that will accommodate the Artwork is on the westernmost face of the Transit Center. The surface of the wall is buff color limestone and should require a minimal level of preparation by the artist. The actual area for the Artwork is 12 feet in width by 18.4 feet in height. The site for the Artwork will be fully exposed to the sun and the elements, and therefore the materials and workmanship should be appropriately considered. The artist may consider two or

three dimensional Artwork for this commission and may also include other elements, materials, etc. that befit a transit location. The site will be at pedestrian level, so the Artwork shall be safe for pedestrian interaction, not be an encroachment hazard to pedestrians, be of appropriate materials and be easily maintained. Exterior lighting for the mural will be provided from above the site location.

Specifications and Considerations

- May be of any material and fabrication appropriate for exterior installation, direct sunlight exposure, safe pedestrian interaction and maintenance.
- Shall communicate transit or transportation values.
- Shall demonstrate a high level of aesthetic quality.
- Shall be compatible with Downtown Transit Center design and materials.
- Shall be fabricated and warranted to commercial industry standards.
- Shall not exceed the following dimensions: 12 feet in width by 18.4 feet in height.
- Shall accommodate a specific installation configuration (to be specified in artist contract). Artist is responsible for installation.

Appendix E to this Call to Artists contains a site view for the Transit Mural.

III. Call to Artists Timetable

Deadline for Written Questions	April 12, 2013
Written Responses Sent & Posted Online	April 15, 2013
Artist Applications Due	April 29, 2013
Interviews	May 2013
Contracts Executed	June 2013
Installation	October 2013 – January 15, 2014

IV. Application Submission

A. Application Submission Process

1. Notice to Interested Artists/Artist Teams

- a. The City of Bloomington Arts Commission is not responsible for costs incurred by anyone responding to this Call to Artists.
- b. The City of Bloomington Arts Commission expressly reserves the right to amend or withdraw this Call to Artists at any time and to reject any or all applications.
- c. The City of Bloomington Arts Commission reserves the right to request additional information at any stage of the Call to Artists evaluation process.

2. Questions

Responding artists/artist teams are to submit written questions related to the specific project requirements and the Call to Artists process by 5 p.m. on April 12, 2013, to:

Miah Michaelson
Department of Economic and Sustainable Development
401 N. Morton Street Suite 130
Bloomington, IN 47402
Questions may be emailed to michaelm@bloomington.in.gov

Written responses to all questions received on time will be available by 5 p.m. on April 12, 2013, in the form of addenda and posted at the project webpage at www.bloomington.in.gov/arts. Oral questions will not be accepted.

Responding artists/artist teams shall rely only on the provisions of this Call to Artists and written addenda in preparing their applications.

B. Valid Application

1. In order to be considered valid, the application shall be in writing, submitted on time and in accordance with the process described below, and be signed by the artist or the artist team lead individual who is accountable for all representations.
2. The application shall comply with the following formatting requirements:
 - a. All pages shall be three-hole punched for a standard loose-leaf binder, but the application shall not be bound or submitted in a binder.
 - b. Documents of more than one page shall be stapled. Respondents are encouraged to use double-sided printing in order to reduce use of paper.
 - c. Only materials specifically requested should be included. Other materials will not be considered or reviewed by the Downtown Transit Center Art Selection Panel.
3. The application shall contain the following information, presented in the order shown:
 - a. Commission Form (Appendix F) attached to and made a part of this Call to Artists.
 - b. Cover letter – Briefly discuss the artist or artist team’s experience with collaborative work and work in public spaces, and why the artist or artist team is best qualified to be chosen. Also indicate the availability of the artist or artist team members over the coming six months to undertake this project.
 - c. Conceptual and Material Approach to the Project – Address the artist or artist team’s approach to the project, including materials to be used and process.
 - d. One (1) set of Visuals – Include up to ten (10) visuals to illustrate your approach. Visuals may be sketches, scale drawings, renderings, maquettes, collages, etc. that the artist/artist team deems appropriate and adequate to communicate their approach to the Selection Panel. Only those submitted materials accompanied by SASE will be returned.
 - e. Project Budget and Timeline
 - f. Resume – Include a professional resume for the responding artist or for each artist team member. Each resume shall be typed and be a maximum of two pages in length.
 - g. One (1) CD of Sample Images and Image List – Include a total of 10 digital images of past work by the submitting artist or artist team, (i.e., 10 images per application, not participant), numbered in the order of desired presentation. An additional 10 images can be included in the application if desired; however, this second set of images will be used only if requested by the Downtown Transit Center Art Selection Panel. Digital images should be presented on a CD in .jpeg format. The CD shall be clearly labeled with the artist's name or the names of the artist team members; only one CD is required. The image list should be numbered and annotated with the artist's name, title of the work, date the work was completed, medium of work, location of the work, cost of the work, time period for completion of work, and a short description of the Artwork.

- h. A maximum of three published reviews/articles about your work may be submitted with the application at your option.
- i. One (1) Set of Public Art Federal Contract Clauses, E-Verify Affidavit, and Iranian Affidavit (Appendix G) attached to and made a part of this call for artists. **Note:** Notary services are available at no charge when submitting application in person at City Hall.

C. Submission

1. Applications are due by 5 p.m. on April 29, 2013.
Submit to:
Miah Michaelsen
Department of Economic and Sustainable Development
401 N. Morton Street Suite 130
Bloomington, IN 47402

Faxed or emailed applications will not be accepted.

2. An **original and six (6) copies** shall be submitted of all components of the application with the exception of **B. 3. d., g., and i.**, which require **only one (1) original** submission. The Commission Form shall have the original signature of the individual who will be accountable for all representations. Unsigned applications will be considered invalid.
3. An application may be withdrawn on written request of the artist prior to the application due date.
4. Failure to submit an application on time shall constitute grounds for the rejection of the application.

V. Evaluation and Contract Award

A. Evaluation

1. The Arts Commission will oversee development and approval of commissions for the Downtown Transit Center.
2. The Arts Commission reserves the right to waive any minor irregularities in the Call to Artists request process.
3. The Downtown Transit Center Art Selection Panel reserves the right to interview any or all responding artists at its discretion. The Arts Commission is not responsible for any costs incurred by the artists in preparing for or participating in an interview.
4. The Downtown Transit Center Art Selection Panel is composed of artists, arts professionals, project partners and community members.
5. The Downtown Transit Center Art Selection Panel will review and evaluate applications based on the following criteria:
 - a. Aesthetic quality of previously completed art projects and commissions and outlined in the conceptual approach for specific Downtown Transit Center commission.
 - b. Applicability and suitability of past work to specific Downtown Transit Center commission opportunities.
 - c. Appropriateness of previously completed artworks to their sites, including safety and

- scale.
 - d. Durability and suitability of materials used related to resistance to vandalism and minimization of maintenance requirements.
 - e. Experience working with the public.
6. The Downtown Transit Center Art Selection Panel may elect to invite finalists to interview by phone or in person prior to awarding commissions.
 7. The Downtown Transit Center Art Selection Panel will submit its recommendations to the board of Bloomington Transit for approval. The decision of the Bloomington Transit board is final.

B. Contract

1. The specific terms of each agreement will be negotiated by the artist and the Arts Commission. The contract will, at minimum, include the following:
 - a. A description of services to include preparation and submission of schematic designs; submission of fabrication and materials specifications; submission of final construction drawings; fabrication; installation; and submission of any maintenance or operational requirements.
 - b. Payment amount, with a breakdown of payments and a payment schedule.
 - c. Project Timeline.
 - d. Details on warranties of quality and condition.
 - e. Artist insurance requirements.
 - f. Specific city, state and federal requirements related to the performance of the commission.
2. A contract for a commission by an artist team will be in the name of the Applicant Artist identified on the Commission Form.

VI. Appendices

- A. Downtown Transit Center Site Plan with Commission Locations
- B. Plaza Level Views of Downtown Transit Center
- C. Site for Bloomington Transit Logo Artwork
- D. Print copy of Bloomington Transit Logo
- E. Site for Transit Mural
- F. Commission Opportunities Form
- G. Public Art Federal Contract Clauses, E-Verify Affidavit and Iranian Affidavit